(c) the number of tourists from China who visited India during the first half of this year and the estimates for the next year which is-being marked as 2,500 years of Lord Buddha as well as India-China Friendship ear?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Aproposal for opening an office in China to tap the potential of the market, is under consideration.

(c)Atotal number of 19,751 Chinese nationals arrived in India during the period January-June 2005, as compared to 15,732 during January-June 2004, registering a growth of 25.5%. Promotional activities are being undertaken to further augment tourist arrivals from China in the coming years.

Development of tourism project in Kerala

2252. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals for projects pertaining to development of tourism have been received from the State Government of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals submitted so far;

(c) the details of projects cleared by the Centre alongwith funds released for each of these projects; and

(d) the present status of these projects, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF- STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following projects have been submitted by the Government of Kerala for grant of central financial assistance:

(1) Revitalization of Munnar Town

(2) Development of Thekkinkad Maidan, Thrissur

(3) Development of Anakkottil, Guruvayoor

(4) Development of Beach Circuit

(5) Development of Golf course at Nedumbassry under Large Revenue Generating scheme

(6) Malabar Travel Mart

(7) Onam Festival

(8) Elephant festival

(9) Development of Tribal village Nellar Chal, Wayanad

The project proposals, complete in all respect, as per guidelines are processed on inter-se-priority basis and funds released, subject to availability under the respective head.

(c) The following projects have been sanctioned till date for development of tourism in Kerala:

	Sr. No.Name of the Project	Sanctioned amount (Rupees in lakhs)
1.	Development of Beach Circuit	798.00
2.	Development of Thekkinkad Maidan Thrissur	489.00
3.	Integrated developed of Golf Course & Country club at the Cochin International Airport, Kerala under Large Revenue Generating scheme.	1000.00
4.	Integrated development of Alappuzha Heritage town as tourist circuit	800.00
5.	Development of Based Marketing tools for Kerala (IT project)	14.00

(d) Project proposals received, complete in all respect, **are** processed on the basis of inter-se-priority basis and funds released, subject to availability under the respective head. However, execution and implementation of projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism is the responsibility of the State Government of Kerala.

Connectivity for tourist spots

2253. SHRI EM. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are various tourist spots in different parts of the country which do not attract many tourists due to lack of proper connectivity;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and